

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TEL AV 10788 221645Z

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----075342 221648Z /44

O 221633Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5054

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

CONFIDENTIAL TEL AVIV 10788

EXDIS

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, MOPS, LE, SY

SUBJECT: LEBANON: SYRIAN PRESENCE

REF: (A) STATE 211480 (B) DAMASCUS 4843

IF SYRIANS WERE TO AGREE TO WITHDRAW 4,000 TROOPS OR SO
FROM LEBANON, THE GOI WOULD BE BOTH SURPRISED AND PLEASED.
WE MIGHT EVEN GET THE ISRAELIS TO WORK ON CHRISTIANS IN
BEIRUT TO MAKE CORRESPONDING GESTURE, ESPECIALLY IF SOME
OF THOSE 4,000 WENT HOME FROM STRATEGIC LOCATIONS IN
EAST BEIRUT. WITH RESPECT TO LINKAGE OF SYRIAN WITH-
DRAWAL TO DEPLOYMENT OF LAF IN SOUTH LEBANON, GOI WOULD
BE BETTER ABLE TO MAKE CASE TO CHRISTIANS IN ENCLAVES TO
ALLOW LAF TO MOVE SOUTH IF IT COULD POINT AT SAME TIME
TO SYRIAN COMMITMENT TO PARTIAL WITHDRAWAL. THIS IS
ESPECIALLY TRUE GIVEN SHIDDIAC'S LINKS TO THE CHRISTIAN
MILITIAS IN BEIRUT. LEWIS

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Message Attributes

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Decapton Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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